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 E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
 TAGS: MOPS, PREL, UN, RW
 SUBJECT: UNAMIR UPDATE

REF: KIGALI 4248

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: UNAMIR HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL ASSUME AUTHORITY FOR THE SECURITY OF KIGALI ON 15 DECEMBER, AND THE FRENCH ANNOUNCE THE DEPARTURE OF THEIR TROOPS

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BY 13 DECEMBER. THE RPF IS EXPECTED TO HAVE ITS PERSONNEL IN KIGALI BY CHRISTMAS. UNAMIR BELIEVES IT WAS TARGETTED BY AN ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE. THE TACTICAL DISPOSITION AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS FACING UNAMIR ARE OUTLINED. END SUMMARY.

UNAMIR TAKES OVER

3. THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATION IN RWANDA, UNAMIR, ANNOUNCED LATE 3 DECEMBER THAT IT WOULD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF KIGALI BY 15 DECEMBER. ACCORDING TO THE UNAMIR CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, LTC NAZRUL OF BANGLADESH, UNAMIR WILL HAVE APPROXIMATELY 880 UN TROOPS IN KIGALI IN ADDITION TO THOSE WORKING INIANIITEADQUATERFQM THIS TOTAL WILL INCLUDE 430 BELGIUM SOLDIERS (320 OF WHOM ARE ALREADY PRESENT IN KIGALI), AND 450 BANGLADESHIS. FOR OPERATIONAL PURPOSES, THE CITY OF
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KIGALI WILL BE DIVIDED IN HALF AND WILL HAVE TWO COMMANDERS -- THE BELGIANS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY IN THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE CITY (TO INCLUDE THE AIRPORT AND UNAMIR HEADQUARTERS), WHILE THE BANGLADESHIS WILL PROVIDE SECURITY FOR THE NORTHERN HALF OF THE CITY (TO INCLUDE THE U.S. EMBASSY). ACCORDING TO A SENIOR UNAMIR OFFICER, THE DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF KIGALI STEMMED FROM THE MUTUAL UNWILLINGNESS OF BELGIUM AND BANGLADESH, EACH OF WHICH WILL HAVE TWO INFANTRY COMPANIES AND A BATTALION HEADQUARTERS UNIT IN KIGALI, TO PLACE THEIR SOLDIERS UNDER THE COMMAND OF AN OFFICER FROM THE OTHER COUNTRY.

BANGLADESHI DEPLOYMENT

4. THE 450 ADDITIONALL BANGLADESHI TROOPS FOR KIGALI ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE ON WEDNESDAY, 8 DECEMBER, ABOARD TWO CHARTER AIRCRAFT. THIS NUMBER WILL INCLUDE A MEDICAL UNIT, A COMPOSITE ENGINEER UNIT, AND TWO INFANTRY COMPANIES. THE UN HAS NOTIFIED BANGLADESH THAT THE INFANTRY UNITS'

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EQUIPMENT, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS FOR ONE COMPANY AND TRUCKS FOR THE SECOND, WILL BE SHIPPED BY AIR TO RWANDA IN LATE DECEMBER. THE ENGINEERS' EQOWZJZXX ENGINEERS' MISSIONS WILL INCLUDE DEMINING IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE, AND REPAIRS AND CONSTRUCTION OF LIGHT BRIDGES. THE OPERATIONS OFFICER STATED THAT BANGLADESH ALSO INTENDS TO PROVIDE TROOPS FOR OPERATION IN THE DMZ.

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HE STATED THAT A TOTAL OF 1100-1200 BANGLADESHI TROOPS WILL BE DEPLOYED TO RWANDA.

AU REVOIR LES FRANCAIS

5. THE ONLY THING CERTAIN ABOUT THE DEPARTURE OF THE TWO REMAINING FRENCH INFANTRY COMPANIES IS THAT IT WILL BE SOON. UNAMIR COMMANDER, BRIGADIER DALLAIRE,

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TOLD VISITING POL/MILOFF THAT ALL THE FRENCH TROOPS
WILL HAVE DEPARTED RWANDA BY 12 DECEMBER. A FRENCH
MILITARY CONTACT TOLD ECONOFF THAT THE FRENCH WOULD
DEPART IN TWO TRANCES -- THE FIRST GROUP WILL LEAVE
ON SATURDAY THE 11TH, AND THE REMAINDER WILL DEPART
ON MONDAY THE 13TH.

CHRISTMAS AND THE RPF BOTH COMING SOON

6. A SENIOR UNAMIR OFFICER TOLD POL/MILOFF THAT
UNAMIR EXPECTS THE RPF PROTECTIVE BATTALION TO COME
TO KIGALI THE WEEK OF 20-25 DECEMBER. UNAMIR HAS
PROPOSED THAT THE RPF UNIT BE QUARTERED AT CAMP KAMI,
APPROXIMATELY 10 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF THE
CAPITAL. UNAMIR EXPECTS THAT THE BROADBASED
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE INAUGURATED DURING
THE FIRST TWO OR THREE DAYS OF THE NEW YEAR.

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UN POSSIBLY TARGET FOR MINE

7. ON SATURDAY MORNING, 4 DECEMBER, A CIVILIAN
WALKING WITH A UNAMIR PATROL WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED
(LOSS OF HIS FOOT AND LOWER LEG) WHEN HE STEPPED ON
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AN ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE IN THE VICINITY OF KABATWA
(THE SCENE OF THE KILLINGS OF 29/30 NOVEMBER). THE
UNAMIR PATROL WAS USING THE TRAIL FOR THE THIRD DAY
IN A ROW AS IT CONTINUED ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE
KABATWA INCIDENT. FIVE UN SOLDIERS HAD WALKED PAST
THE MINE BEFORE IT WAS DETONATED BY A LOCAL VILLAGER
ACCOMPANYING THEM.

UNAMIR SUSPICIONS

8. GENERAL DALLAIRE (AND SEEMINGLY HIS ENTIRE STAFF)
BELIEVE THAT THE MINE WAS MEANT FOR UNAMIR. DALLAIRE
HIMSELF USED THE TRAIL ON THURSDAY THE 2ND, HIS
DEPUTY COMMANDER USED IT ON FRIDAY, AND THE MINE
DENONATED ON SATURDAY. UNAMIR EXPLOSIVES ORDNANCE
PERSONNEL HAVE IDENTIFIED THE MINE AS AN
ANTI-PERSONNEL TYPE THAT IS IN THE RWANDAN ARMY
INVENTORY. THEY ALREADY BELIEVED THAT THE KABATWA
KILLINGS WERE CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT HARDLINERS, AND
HAD HINTED TO LOCAL MILITARY AUTHORITIES THAT WHILE
THEY HAD FOUND NOTHING TO IMPLICATE THE RPF, THEY HAD
SUSPICIONS AS TO POSSIBLE HUTU-EXTREMIST MOTIVES.
UNAMIR OFFICERS BELIEVE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT AN
RPF ELEMENT WOULD REMAIN IN THE AREA FOR THREE DAYS
40 KILOMETERS FROM RPF LINES AND ONLY 3 KILOMETERS
FROM A RWANDAN ARMY COMMANDO CAMP. THEY BELIEVE THE
MINE INCIDENT IS INTENDED TO PREVENT UNAMIR FROM
COMPLETING ITS INVESTIGATION OF THE EARLIER INCIDENT.

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9. GENERAL DALLAIRE BELIEVES THAT HUTU EXTREMISTS HAVE CONDUCTED THE RECENT ACTIONS IN AN EFFORT TO DESTABILIZE THE SITUATION AND PREVENT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORDS, TO INCLUDE THE DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AND SEATING OF THE BROAD BASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. AS A RESULT, DALLAIRE IS TELLING HIS GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA INTERLOCUTORS THAT THE INCIDENTS WILL SIMPLY SPEED THE UN DEPLOYMENT RATHER THAN SLOW THE PEACE PROCESS.

UNAMIR DEPLOYMENT NEAR THE DMZ

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10. UNAMIR FORCES IN THE NORTH OF RWANDA ARE
DEPLOYED IN AND NEAR THE DMZ AS FOLLOWS:

- IN RUHENERI THERE IS A UNAMIR DETACHMENT COMPRISED
OF APPROXIMATELY 20 SENEGALESE AND 15 CONGOLESE
OFFICERS. THE DETACHMENT, WHICH HAS THREE VEHICLES,
NORMALLY OPERATES TWO PATROLS PER DAY -- A ROAD
PATROL WEST TO AND FROM GISENYI ON THE ZAIRIAN
BORDER, PRIMARILY TO SHOW THE BLUE BERETS, AND
VEHICULAR SWEEP ALONG THE BASE OF THE VOLCANOES OR A
ROAD PATROL TO CYANICA ON THE UGANDAN BORDER.

- NKUMBA. A 30 MAN PLATOON OF TUWISIANS, COMMANDED
BY A LIEUTENANT, IS LOCATED IN A CATHOLIC SEMINARY
NEAR NKUMBA IN THE DMZ. THE PLATOON, WHICH HAS ONLY
ONE VEHICLE, DOES NOT NORMALLY CONDUCT ANY PATROLS OR
MAN ANY OBSERVATION POSTS.

- KINIHIRA. A 27 MAN TUNISIAN PLATOON, COMMANDED BY
A CAPTAIN (THE COMMANDER OF THE TWO PLATOON COMPANY),
IS LOCATED ON THE GROUNDS OF THE AMERICAN-OWNED
SORWATHE TEA FACTORY IN KINIHIRA IN THE DMZ. THE
UNIT HAS ONE VEHICLE, WITH WHICH IT ATTEMPTS TO
CONDUCT A DAILY SWEEP OF ITS ASSIGNED SECTOR. NO
OBSERVATION POSTS ARE NORMALLY MAINTAINED ALONG
EITHER THE NORTH OR SOUTH SIDE OF THE DMZ. ON
OCCASIONS WHEN A JOINT RPF-GOR MEETING IS BEING HELD,
THE DETACHMENT DOES ESTABLISH A CHECKPOINT ON BOTH
SIDES OF THE DMZ AND ESCORTS THE RPF DELEGATION INTO

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THE DMZ.

- RWAMAGANA. A SIX MAN UNAMIR DETACHMENT (THREE SENECALESE AND THREE CONGOLESE) IS LOCATED IN EASTERN RWANDA IN RWAMAGANA, WELL SOUTH OF THE DMZ. THE DETACHMENT, WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY AN ADVANCE PARTY FOR THE FOLLOW-ON UNAMIR PHASE 2 DEPLOYMENT, HAS ONE VEHICLE AND NEITHER CONDUCTS PATROLS NOR MANS ANY OBSERVATION POSTS.

11. NONE OF THE UNAMIR DETACHMENTS IN/NEAR THE DMZ HAVE REGULAR CONTACT (EITHER PHYSICAL OR BY RADIO) WITH THE UN MISSION IN UGANDA. BRIGADIER DALLAIRE IS COMMANDER OF BOTH UN PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS. DUE TO SENSITIVITIES ON THE PART OF UGANDAN PRESIDENT MUSEVENI AND THE RPF, DALLAIRE MANAGES THEM AS TWO DISTINCT OPERATIONS WITH SEPARATE HEADQUARTERS STAFFS. DALLAIRE WILL BE IN UGANDA ON 9-10 DECEMBER TO VISIT THE OPERATION THERE.

JOINT MILITARY COMMISSIONS RESUME WORK

12. ACCORDING TO GENERAL DALLAIRE, THE JOINT "COMMISSION ON RECONCILIATIONS RECOMMENCED ITS MEETINGS IN KINIHIRA ON 6 DECEMBER. RWANDA GOVERNMENT RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT A MEETING ON SECURITY IN THE DMZ WAS HELD ON 6 DECEMBER WITH UNAMIR, GOR AND RPF PARTICIPATION. RWANDAN ARMY SOURCES TOLD POL/MILOFF THAT THE JOINT GOR-RPF COMMISSION ON
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INTEGRATION OF THE FORCES IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME ITS WORK ON 7 DECEMBER.

UNAMIR LOGISTICS PROBLEMS

13. UNAMIR IS STILL CRITICALLY SHORT OF VEHICLES AND RADIOS. GENERAL DALLAIRE'S HEADQUARTERS DOES NOT EVEN HAVE DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS WITH DEPLOYED UNITS.

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DALLAIRE MUST TELEPHONE OR SEND A COURIER TO THE DMZ
OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS (ALSO IN KIGALI), WHICH THEN

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RELAYS THE MESSAGE BY RADIO. THE DMZ OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS "INHERITED" THE BUILDING, RADIOS AND VEHICLES THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN USED BY THE OAU NEUTRAL MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP (NMOG).

14. UNAMIR HAD EXPECTED TO RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL 20 VEHICLES OVER THE WEEKEND 4-5 DECEMBER. THE VEHICLES, WHICH ARE BEING AIR TRANSPORTED FROM CAMBODIA, WERE UNEXPECTEDLY DELAYED IN NAIROBI. THEY WILL SUPPOSEDLY BE SHIPPED TO KIGALI ON 7 OR 8 DECEMBER. UNAMIR IS ALSO REPORTEDLY EXPECTING 2 TONS OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT BEING SHIPPED FROM OTHER UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, BUT DOES NOT YET HAVE AN EXPECTED DELIVERY DATE FOR THE RADIOS.

COMMENTS

15. AT THE PRESENT TIME, THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE IS BASICALLY BEING OPERATED ON THE HONOR SYSTEM, SINCE UNAMIR DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TROOPS OR VEHICLES TO EFFECTIVELY PATROL THE ZONE OR TO MAN CHECKPOINTS ON THE ROADS ENTERING INTO THE DMZ. THE UNAMIR VEHICLE SHORTAGE HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE TURMOIL IN BURUNDI, WITH THE SUBSEQUENT REFUGEE FLOW INTO RWANDA AND REPORTS OF PALIPEHUTU RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING IN

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SOUTHERN RWANDA. GENERAL DALLAIRE HAS HAD TO SEND 1-2 VEHICLE PATROLS PER DAY ALONG THE RWANDA-BURUNDI FRONTIER TO "SHOW THE BLUE BERETS" AND TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE SITUATION THERE.

16. UNAMIR'S INABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY MONITOR THE DMZ LEAVES THE UN VULNERABLE TO COMPLAINTS FROM BOTH SIDES THAT THE OTHER SIDE IS VIOLATING THE

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CEASEFIRE. SUCH MUTUAL RECRIMINATIONS PLAGUED NMOG THROUGHOUT ITS MISSION IN RWANDA. RWANDAN GOVERNMENT HARDLINERS ARE PRONE TO VIEW THE SITUATION IN TERMS OF EITHER/OR -- EITHER UNAMIR IS ON THE SIDE OF THE GOVERNMENT, OR IT MUST BE SUPPORTING THE RPF -- RATHER THAN ACCEPTING THE CONCEPT OF UN NEUTRALITY. ONE UNAMIR OFFICER, WHO HAD EARLIER SERVED AS PART OF THE OAU'S NMOG FORCE, STATED IN REPLY TO THE QUESTION OF HOW UNAMIR WAS BEING PERCEIVED, "GOVERNMENT PEOPLE ARE NOW SAYING THAT GENERAL OPALLEYE (THE NIGERIAN COMMANDER OF NMOG) LEANED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE RPF, BUT THAT GENERAL DALLAIRE IS IN BED WITH THE RPF."

17. UNAMIR PERSONNEL ARE WELL AWARE THAT THEY ARE CONFRONTING A DANGEROUS PERIOD OF TIME -- THOSE EXTREMISTS HOPING TO DERAIL THE PEACE PROCESS ARE EXPECTED TO INTENSIFY THEIR DESTRUCTIVE EFFORTS AS THE DEPARTURE OF THE FRENCH TROOPS NEARS, AS UNAMIR ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY OF KIGALI, AND AS THE RPF LEADERS AND PROTECTIVE BATTALION ENTER KIGALI TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BROADBASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, MORALE AMONG THE UNAMIR
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TROOPS IS HIGH. DALLAIRE IS AN ENERGETIC, DYNAMIC LEADER AND HAS IMBUED HIS MEN WITH ENTHUSIASM AND CONFIDENCE.
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